

**BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL**

**OLDER PEOPLE'S COUNCIL**

**10am, 18 AUGUST 2015**

**ROOM 149, KINGS HOUSE**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Mike Bojczuk (Chair), Colin Vincent (Vice Chair), Francis Tonks, Val Brown, John Eyles, Nick Goslett, Lynn Shields, Cllr Karen Barford, Roisin Murphy & Tricia Winter (minutes)

**Apologies:** Penny Morley (Secretary) & Katrina Byrne

**PART ONE**

**115 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS**

Apologies were received from Penny Morley and Katrina Byrne.  
Roisin Murphy attended representing Age UK.  
Cllr Karen Bardford attended as link councillor.  
Nick Goslett was attending for Hangleton & Knoll

**Declaration of Substitutes**

Tricia Winter attended to take minutes in place of Karen Amsden.

**Declarations of Interest**

There were none.

**116 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** – Due to Karen Amsden being off sick minutes from previous meeting had not been circulated. It was **AGREED** Karen Amsden would send these out on her return and would be agreed at the next meeting.

**117 DISCUSSION WITH HEAD OF CORPORATE POLICY, SCRUTINY AND COMMUNITIES**

Richard Butcher-Tuset attended the meeting to give an update on the council's budget situation and to update the OPC on plans of how it could move forward and work with the Scrutiny team with the limited services now available with council restructures and reduced budgets.

Scrutiny has now moved into the Policy unit with budget cuts being made which will leave a challenging role with more work, fewer people and resources. RBT also confirmed he would be leaving his post in September.

RBT talked through the OPC's budget of £7.5k, which included £2k for supplies and services and £5k for officer time of 1.5 days per week.

**AGREED** – RBT to check over figures with KA including insurance with KA to bring back to next meeting, this is the OPCs budget to control.

RBT also talked to the group regarding funding and resources and suggested they spoke to Jonathan Best, Discretionary Grants Programme Manager (Tel: 291114). JB would be able to talk through eligibility for any council grants plus take them through the Grant Tracker process.

**AGREED** – Chair to contact JB

RBT talked through how the group could work in future by still calling in work and officers with a scrutiny role which was a valued process but also to rebalance their approach to strategic engagement.

Revisit purpose and priorities, show representation role by meeting the needs and local issues, add value to strategic challenges and campaign role.

RBT suggested the group talk to Strategic Directors – Tom Scanlon, Director of Public Health and Denise D'Souza, Executive Director Adult Services regarding an open meeting relating key issues in the city which the OPC could agree best ways forward to help lead on their work programme agenda's in partnership.

**AGREED** – Chair to make initial contact with Directors for meetings.

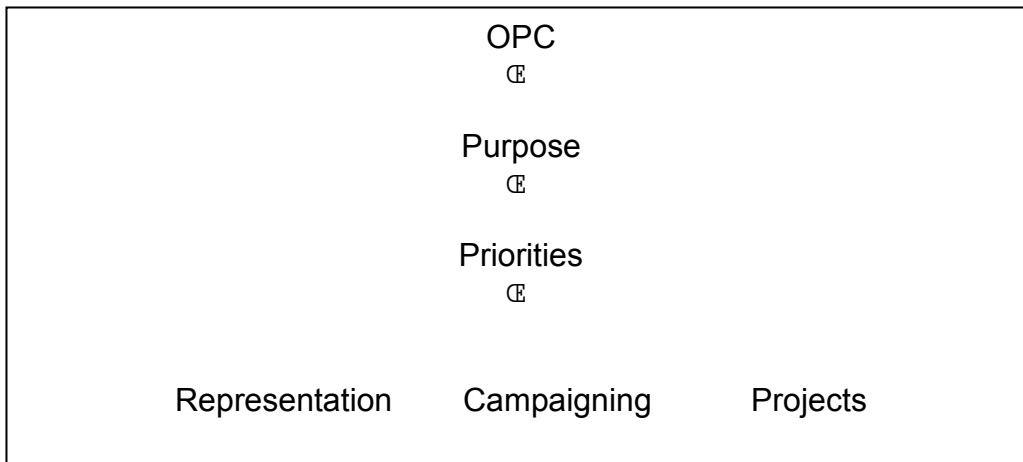
RBT also suggested meeting with opposition politicians as well as the quarterly meetings held with the Leader, Cllr Warren Morgan due to there being no overall control a council operating a committee system.

OPC **AGREED** they need to meet with councillors and the community regularly – reintroduce who they are, what they are about and how to they will deliver. There was a need to revisit purpose and priorities, representation role, meeting local needs and local issues and how to add value to strategic challenges.

**AGREED** – Chair to make initial contact with opposition lead Councillors.

RBT suggested the group held a facilitated workshop to talk through all of the above issues. Session would come up with 3 key issues where OPC can show an outcome change and a clear plan for the next year. RBT confirm he could facilitate workshop if OPC agreed on date to his departure.

A structure for the workshop could be working through the following chart:



OPC needs to focus on small number of projects and deliver them.

The OPC thanked RBT for attending and his work over the time with them and asked who would replace him. RBT confirmed his role would not be replaced but they should contact Matt Wragg or Paula Murray in future but confirmed that Karen Amsden would still be first point of contact.

**118, 119 & 120**

These items were then linked into one item due to time constraints for the meeting.

A discussion was held on prioritising the things OPC did – scrutiny and representation on committees.

**AGREED** – an OPC representative should attend each relevant committee.

Social Media and press for OPC was needed with possible monthly statement going out, community need know we exist. What skills within OPC do we have? Is there funding to publicise OPC’s role with community and representation. Need to be seen/show to be helping council’s aims. Annual Report needs to be sent out to relevant officers/cllrs/libraries etc to reintroduce OPC.

**AGREED** – KA to check on links with BHCC Communications team and who to meet with to discuss further.

**AGREED** – working groups need to be set-up for projects and they will feedback into main OPC meetings. Business Plans would be needed for all projects including budgets.

Possible projects/priorities could include:

Transport  
 Care Plan / Care Act / Care Regulations  
 Adult Social Care  
 Prevention  
 Living Wage / Home Care  
 Digital Inclusion  
 Activeness

The group then talked through their own areas of interest and what they would like to be involved in:

- FT looking into engaging with AGE UK group and being their rep.  
Community Safety
- MB Housing and IT
- JE Housing, Transport and Environment
- CV Health, Social Care and Licensing
- NG Hangelton area, Social Media and Patient Data & how this is used
- VB Planning

**121 Annual Report**

**AGREED** - CV to provide information

**AGREED** – all to send MB any photos to include plus their 'headshot' if they wished changed.

**122 OPC Work Programme**

September open meeting to include:  
 Philip Letchfield & Home Care Manager to link with projects and priorities.  
 Julia Reddaway to talk re: Fairness Commission  
 Rep from Bus Company to discuss changes to timetable 2016 relating to subsidise services only.  
 Older People's Day, 1<sup>st</sup> October  
 Officer Elections

**ACTION** - Chair/KA to invite and draft agenda.  
 KA to look into Elections process and confirm to OPC

October meeting:  
Health & Wellbeing Strategy – Barbara Deacon

### 123 Secretary's Update

- **OPC** - wrote to Val Brown re co-option and she agreed. Sue Howley sent best wishes but has other commitments at present. Also email to BMWCP inviting them as an Associate Group and awaiting a reply.
- **Somerset Day Centre** - attended with a number of OPC members past & present for their anniversary celebration on 23rd July. A great event which was well supported.
- **Sheltered Day Centre** - attended Open Day on 23rd July at The Denes Rottingdean run by Teachers Association. They take a range of people and scheme provides full meals. Details held by Secretary.
- **Age Friendly City Forum** - held on 27th July at Age UK. Steve Andrews of Trust for Developing Communities spoke about their current activities with older people. Emily O'Brien of Food Partnership gave a presentation about Food & Older people report & a number of proposals were made by forum. Annie Alexander has asked about terms of reference for forum & this is being considered.
- **GP Closures** - CCG replied to our concerns and offered a meeting which is currently being arranged. We have offered dates 27th Aug or 1st Sep and are awaiting a reply.
- **National Pensioners Convention** - SE Regional meeting attended by a range of Brighton members on 28th July. Range of issues covered including concerns about the situation re cap on Social Care not being introduced as specified before election. Budget analysis & Age Audit circulated.
- **Older Peoples Day** - a meeting has been arranged to meet with Dr Lizzie Ward University of Brighton & B Gahagan Age UK to discuss a joint event re social care impacts with OPC for the 1st October.
- **City Plan** - Subsequent to the presentation at the July meeting - Chair & Secretary liaised & response submitted to the consultation. This focused on particular issues of concern to older people albeit in the very narrow framework for the consultation.
- **Annual Report** - Secretarial report and a section on Fairness for older people drafted for the report.
- **Silver Stories** - Monday 10th August. Responded to OPC invite to presentation and short films. Results of a European project interviewing a range of older people about their life stories presented at the University of Brighton Sallis Benney Theatre. Very moving digistories shown about the life of older people project linked with Salvation Army sheltered housing in UK.

### Invitations to a range of events

- **City Wide Connect** - The work on social isolation goes through locality

hubs. The next meeting of East is on 9th September, North/Central is 23rd September and West is 30th September.

- **Fabrica** - conversation piece on 4th August. Daytime events timetable for August & September circulated.
- **Police & Crime Commissioner** - 5th August at Age UK coffee morning
- **Silver Strings** - concert on 11th August at Brighthelm
- **CCG Commissioning** - meeting on 25th August at Brighthelm 10-11.30
- **Healthwatch** - information about GP visits by Healthwatch across the city in July, August & September. Also invitation to complete on-line survey
- **Patching Lodge & New Larchwood** - events in August at both venues
- **Mental Health & Well Being** - 26th August at 11.00 in Unitary Church, New Road
- **Portslade LAT** - next meetings 21st September & 16th November
- **Age UK 50 years celebration** - Wednesday 2nd September 7pm-11pm The Emporium London Road.
- **Brighton & Hove Wellbeing Partnership Event** - Tuesday 15th September pm - only one representative from each organisation
- **Chamber of Commerce** event - costs £10 - 11th September
- **Crown Post Office Brunswick** - proposed closure campaign meeting 17th August
- **Mind Out** - Free course for LGBTQ people starting 11th September. Contact [info@mindout.org.uk](mailto:info@mindout.org.uk)

**Newsletters/ Bulletins**

- myageingparent.com circulated by Lynne
- **Age UK Campaign** - to cap energy costs petition to the Competition & Markets Authority (CMA)
- **Care in the City** - BHCC ASC - Tess Craven appointed by Community Works to support community & voluntary sec involvement in Better Care plans.
- **Age Action Alliance**
- **Later Life**
- **St Johns Centre** - August monthly programme
- **Healthwatch** - Newsletter with update about Goodwood CourtPM emailed to group prior to meeting.

**124 Members' Update**

- MB Summerset House Anniversary  
Albion in Community – Awareness Seminar  
AGE UK meeting with Police Commissioner  
City Plan submission  
Annual Report
- CV Presentations on Goodwood Court Closure and Crisis in Hospitals  
**AGREED** – CV to send copies  
Healthwatch new CE

LS:

- I have written a letter to the councillors of East Brighton and Queens Park to introduce myself.
- I have sent letters of introduction to a number of community groups in my wards to introduce myself.
- I have attended an event at HOPE and given a brief outline of the work of the OPC and The Age Friendly City.
- I posed a question to the newly formed Neighbourhoods, Communities and Equalities Committee and received a response from Emma Daniel (Chairman)
- I attended a workshop in Working with Communities (Trust for Developing Communities)I am booked onto The Citywide Connect hub (September 9th)
- I will be attending the next CCG Meeting on August 25th.
- I will be attending the next Age Friendly City Forum and Steering Group Meetings
- I have offered to be an active member at The Older Peoples Day (being organised by Impact) and have offered assistance to Linda Hastings (Impact) should any be required.

**125 Any Other Business**

FT and LS gave apologies for next meeting.

The meeting concluded at 1pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

